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UNCLAS VILNIUS 001117

SIPDIS

STATE FOR EUR/NB AND PM/ISO

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: LITHUANIAN MINISTRIES WORKING ON EUROCONTROL FEE

REF: SECSTATE 182790

11. (U) We have approached the MFA at various levels to seek an exemption of U.S. military and other U.S. state aircraft from air navigation, overflight, and terminal navigation fees. MFA Undersecretary Sarunas Adomavicius promised the Ambassador on August 31 to look into the matter, and others within the MFA from Department director to working level have indicated there is political will to grant the exemption. Darius Mereckis of MFA's NATO Division said he will coordinate with the Ministry of Transportation in order that they direct the Lithuanian airport authority not to assess such fees against U.S. state and military aircraft and to instruct Eurocontrol to cease collection efforts for outstanding fees.

12. (U) We will follow up aggressively on this matter at different agencies and levels.

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